

Maryland. Society of the Army & Navy of
the Confederate States

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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Society of the Army & Navy

OF THE

CONFEDERATE STATES,

IN THE

STATE OF MARYLAND.

KING BROTHERS, PRINTERS,

162 W, Baltimore Street.

1871.

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CONSTITUTION.

To collect and preserve the materials for a truthful History of the late War between the Confederate States and the United States of America: To honor the memory of our Comrades who have fallen: To cherish the ties of friendship among those who survive; and to fulfil the duties of saered charity towards those who may stand in need of them: We, whose names are appended, who were formerly engaged in the Military or Naval service of the Confederate States, do hereby associate ourselves together for the purposes named, and do adopt for our government the following Constitution:

ARTICLE I.

The name of our Association shall be THE SOCIETY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES in the State of Maryland.

ARTICLE II.

1. Only such persons shall be eligible to membership as honorably served in the Army or Navy of the Confederate States until the close of the war, or were honorably discharged therefrom.
2. Active members of the Association must be resident in the State of Maryland at the time of application.
3. Members of kindred societies in other States may be elected Honorary members by a vote of the Association in general meeting.
4. Active members who have ceased to contribute to the support of the Association, while in arrears, shall

be considered and denominated Passive members, and be debarred the privilege of participating in the meetings and Re-unions of the Association.

ARTICLE III.

1. Applications for membership shall be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, shall be made in accordance with a printed form to be prescribed for the purpose by the General Committee as hereinafter constituted, and shall set forth briefly the military or naval record of the applicant, certified to, if possible, by officers of his immediate command, or accompanied by other satisfactory proofs of honorable service.

2. Such applications when received by the Secretary shall be immediately referred by him to the General Committee of the Association, by whom they shall be deliberately considered and voted upon, each applicant being ballotted for separately, and two black-balls being sufficient to defeat any application: *Provided*, that the Association in general meeting shall have power in all cases to revise the action of the Committee.

3. The military record furnished by each member elected, at the time of his application, shall be copied into a suitable book to be kept for the purpose, and in order that said records may be uniform and complete, original members of the Association shall furnish to the Recording Secretary similar statements prepared according to the same form.

4. The election of Honorary members shall be *viva voce*, upon the nomination of the General Committee, and shall confer no privilege beyond that of attending the meetings and re-unions of the Association, without a vote.

ARTICLE IV.

1. The officers of the Association shall be a President, twelve Vice-Presidents, three Secretaries, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of seven members, all of whom shall be elected annually at the February meeting of the Association, and who shall constitute together the General Committee of the Association.

2. The duties of President, Secretary and Treasurer require no specification.

3. The Executive Committee shall be charged with the duty of making arrangements for the General Meetings and for the annual re-union of the Association, which shall take place on the same day as the annual meeting for election of officers, and immediately thereafter. The Committee shall meet for the purpose upon the call of the President who shall be *ex officio* Chairman of the committee. Three members shall constitute a quorum.

4. The General Committee, of which also the President of the Society shall be *ex officio* Chairman, shall meet quarterly or oftener, upon the call of the President, for the purpose of considering and disposing of applications for membership or other business pertaining to the general interests of the Association. Seven members shall constitute a quorum.

5. The General Committee shall take charge of the Historical Records of the Association, and shall provide for their proper custody, and also for filing, binding, transcribing and indexing the same, and shall be authorized to employ necessary clerical assistance, for which purpose and other expenditures of the committee, a por-

tion of the funds of the Association shall be placed at their disposal at each annual meeting.

6. In furtherance of the same general object, they shall specially invite contributions of historical works printed or MSS., maps, drawings, memoirs and narratives of eye-witnesses, authentic copies, where the originals cannot be procured, of official documents, reports, correspondence and materials likely to be valuable to the Historian, and which are now in danger of being lost for the want of some organized agency for their collection and preservation.

7. They shall make a report to the annual meeting of all their proceedings and expenditures.

ARTICLE V.

1. The annual meeting and re-union of the Association shall be held on the 22d day of February, or the day following, should that day fall on Sunday—at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall designate. Only members of the Association, Active and Honorary, shall be entitled to be present.

2. General meetings of the Association may be held at other times upon the call of the General Committee, but not for the transaction of any business appointed to be transacted at an annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The amount of fees or other dues payable by members of the Association shall be fixed by a vote of the Association in general meeting, and shall not be changed except by a majority of those present and voting at an annual meeting.

ARTICLE VII.

A form of Badge to be worn by members of the Association may be adopted by the General Committee, but the use of such Badge by individual members shall be entirely optional.

ARTICLE VIII.

1. Members of the Association resident in any County of the State may organize themselves into a County Society, and adopt such By-Laws as are not inconsistent with the Constitution and general purposes of this Society.

2. Such County Societies when organized shall be entitled to delegate representation at the annual meetings of the Society, the delegates to have as many votes as the Society they represent has members; but no one shall be considered a member of the County Society who has not previously become a member of the State or General Society, and no person resident in any County of the State where a County Society shall be in existence, shall be elected a state member unless his application is approved by the County Society.

3. To facilitate the formation of such County Societies as well as the collection of records and memorials relating to the general purposes of the Association, a Committee of Correspondence shall be appointed by the President in every County of the State where members shall reside.

ARTICLE IX.

The General Committee shall have power to adopt all necessary By-Laws not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution and the general objects of the As-

sociation, but no alteration shall be made in the Constitution except at an annual meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE X.

This Constitution shall not be altered in whole or in part except by a vote of two-thirds of those present and voting at an annual meeting—three months previous notice of any proposed amendment having been given to the members of the Association by the General Committee.

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